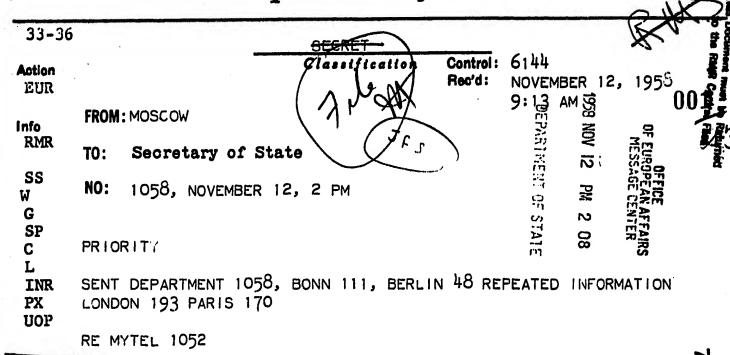
Department of State

ACTION COPY



NLESS PROMPT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED UPON A STRONG TRIPARTITE EPLY TO KHRUSHCHEV'S SPEECH ON BERLIN QUESTION I SUGGEST N EARLY REPLY IN FORM OF SPEECH BY PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY. UGGEST WE SHOULD PUT SOVIETS ON DEFENSIVE BY POINTING OUT HAT WHILE THEY HAVE BEEN GIVING LIP SERVICE TO REDUCTION OF ENSION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATUS QUO, THEY HAVE IN FACT TAKEN SERIES OF STEPS DESIGNED TO INCREASE TENSION AND DISTURB EQUILIBRIUM IN MANY AREAS THROUGHOUT WORLD INCLUDING THIS RECENT THREAT AGAINST WESTERN BERLIN. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD , MAKE JNMISTAKABLY CLEAR THAT <u>we will defend our rights</u> in Berlin,:

INCLUDING ACCESS THERETO, BY WHATEVER MEANS ARE NECESSARY. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO INDICATE THAT THIS WOULD INCLUDE LAND COMMUNICATION AND NOT REPETITION OF AIRLIFT. TIME SUGGEST WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR READINESS TO DISCUSS THIS OR OTHER PROBLEMS WITH SOVIETS I ALSO SUGGEST THAT ATOGETHER WITH OUR ALLIES WE SHOULD CARRY OUT A SUSTAINED AND VIGOROUS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST EAST GERMAN REGIME, SHOWING ITS LACK OF POPULAR SUPPORT AND ITS MAINTENANCE BY SOVIET MILITARY FORCE. IN ANY SERIOUS PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS

WITH SOVIETS HOWEVER I BELIEVE THAT WE OR WEST GERMANS SHOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR RECOGNITION OF PROBLEM WHICH SOVIETS HAVE CREATED FOR THEMSELVES BY SETTING UP A COMMUNIST REGINE

IN EAST GERMANY AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THIS IN ANY SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN PROBLEM. I HAVE

PERMANENT RECORD COPY • This copy must be

central files wit**NM&&**

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- 2 - 1058, NOVEMBER 12, 2 PM FROM MOSCOW

THE PROBABLE NECESSITY OF A TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT IN ANY GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO ALLOW SOVIETS TO DISENGAGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY IN GERMANY WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING COMMUNIST REGIMES IN REST OF EASTERN EUROPE. AS IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT RECENT MOVE WAS AT LEAST IN PART STIMULATED BY POLES WHO ARE CONCERNED AT FUTURE GERMAN THREAT, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WEST GERMANS COULD AT LEAST REITERATE THEIR COMMITMENT NOT TO USE FORCE IN SETTLING PROBLEMS WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS.

THOMPSON

JYH/20